

Message Text

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ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 CCO-00 ISO-00 DHA-02 CU-04
INRE-00 SSO-00 ACDA-10 OMB-01 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 H-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PA-02
/081 W

-----301808Z 059215 /46

O 301713Z MAR 77 ZFF-4
FM USDEL SECRETARY IN MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD IMMEDIATE
USDEL MBFR VIENNA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
WHITE HOUSE

UNCLAS SECTO 03049

WHITE HOUSE FOR NSC FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI AND MR. POWELL

DEPT FOR S/PRS

USIA FOR IPS/PE, IEU

GENEVA FOR USIO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PFOR, OVIP (VANCE, SYRUS R.)

SUBJECT: SECVISIT: TOASTS AT SECRETARY'S LUNCHEON

REF: STATE 056619

UNCLASSIFIED

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FOLLOWING ARE VERBATIM TRANSCRIPTS OF TOASTS DELIVERED BY
SECRETARY VANCE AND FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO AT A LUNCHEON
HOSTED BY THE SECRETARY, MARCH 30, 1977. LUNCHEON WAS
HELD AT AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE, SPASO HOUSE:

(BEGIN TEXT OF SECRETARY'S TOAST)

MR. MINISTER, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS AND COLLEAGUES: FIRST, MAY I
EXTEND A VERY WARM WELCOME TO THE RESIDENCE HERE TO THE FOREIGN
MINISTER AND OUR SOVIET COLLEAGUES. I BELIEVE IT IS JUST TWENTY

YEARS IN WHICH THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAS HELD THAT HIGH OFFICE. THAT MAKES HIM THE SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTER IN ANY COUNTRY IN THE WORLD.

AS I LOOK BACK AND SEE THE IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES DURING THOSE TWENTY YEARS, IT IS A GREAT TRIBUTE TO HIM AND TO OTHERS WHO HAVE BROUGHT THIS PROGRESS. FOR THE PAST THREE DAYS WE HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN SERIOUS DISCUSSIONS. WE CARRY THE HOPES OF ALL THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD THAT REASON WILL PREVAIL IN HUMAN AFFAIRS. OUR TWO GREAT NATIONS ALSO CARRY A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY CREATED BY THE FORCES OF HISTORY AND OF CIRCUMSTANCE. IF WE MEET THAT RESPONSIBILITY OUR EFFORTS WILL BE APPLAUDED. IF WE FAIL, THERE WILL BE NO EXCUSES. SUCCESS CAN BE DEFERRED BUT ONLY AT A PRICE. IT CANNOT BE FOREVER DENIED. WE ARE CHALLENGED BY HISTORY TO JOIN IN BUILDING WORLD PEACE AND WORLD ORDER OF RATIONAL INTERACTION AMONG NATIONS. HUMANITY DEMANDS THAT WE DO SO.

MR. MINISTER, THESE DAYS IN MOSCOW SHOULD BE A STEP ON THE WAY TO GREATER UNDERSTANDING AND GREATER COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO NATIONS. WE CAN SET A NEW COURSE IF WE HAVE THE POLITICAL WISDOM TO DO SO. FOR OUR PART, WE ARE PREPARED TO JOIN WITH YOU IN WORKING FOR THE CAUSE OF DETENTE, FOR PEACE AND HUMAN DIGNITY AND TOLERANCE.

MAY I ASK THAT YOU ALL JOIN WITH ME IN A TOAST AND THAT WE RAISE OUR GLASSES TO THE HEALTH OF GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV, TO THE HEALTH OF OUR DISTINGUISHED FOREIGN MINISTER, TO THE HEALTH OF ALL GATHERED HERE AND TO THE HEALTH OF MANKING THROUGH PEACE AND UNCLASSIFIED

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PROSPERITY.

(END TEXT OF SECRETARY'S TOAST; BEGIN TEXT OF GROMYKO TOAST--
TRANSLATION AS GIVEN AT LUNCHEON)

MR. SECRETARY OF STATE, OUR AMERICAN HOSTS, COMRADES:

FIRST OF ALL I SHOULD NOTE THAT OUR SOVIET PROTOCOL PRACTICES ARE MAKING HEADWAY. OUR AFTER-DINNER SPEECHES ARE BECOMING PRE-DINNER SPEECHES.

WELL, IF I WERE BRIEFLY TO TOUCH ON SOME OF THE SUBSTANCE OF WHAT WE HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT IN THESE LAST FEW DAYS, I WOULD SAY FIRST OF ALL THAT IT IS CERTAINLY A GOOD THING THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN TO THE SOVIET UNION FOR TALKS WITH, FIRST AND FOREMOST, GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV AND WITH CERTAIN OTHER REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SOVIET UNION, AND I KNOW YOU CAN GUESS FOR YOURSELVES WHO THEY ARE, TO SPEAK ABOUT CERTAIN QUESTIONS OF INTEREST TO BOTH SIDES OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE--QUESTIONS OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE, BIG QUESTIONS, ON WHICH MUCH DEPENDS. THAT IS A GOOD THING. I TOO WOULD PREFER NOT TO GIVE A YES OR NO ANSWER TO THE QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT WE HAVE DONE MUCH WORK OR NOT. IT IS SOMETIMES HARD TO GIVE A YES OR NO ANSWER TO QUESTIONS SUCH AS THESE. BUT THERE IS ONE INDUBITABLE FACT AND THAT IS THAT THIS

VISIT WAS NECESSARY AND THE WORK DONE WAS NECESSARY AND THAT IT HAD TO BE DONE. THAT IS TRUE AND THAT IS BEYOND ANY DOUBT.

AND WE LIKE TO THINK, AND I SPEAK FOR MYSELF AND FOR THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP AS A WHOLE, THAT IT IS TRUE THAT A GREAT DEAL DEPENDS IN THE WORLD ON COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO BIG POWERS, THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION. THIS IS A TRUTH, AND YOU CAN ASK ANY SOVIET OR AMERICAN MAN IN THE STREET AND HE WILL SAY THAT THAT IS SO AND HE WILL BE RIGHT. MUCH INDEED DEPENDS UPON US. A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY DEVOLVES UPON OUR TWO COUNTRIES. WE HAVE ALWAYS SAID AND WE SAY THAT WE SHALL BE TRUE TO OUR PART, OUR SHARE, OF THE RESPONSIBILITY. AND WE SHALL TRAVEL OUR HALF OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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ROAD LEADING TO STABLE AND LASTING PEACE. AND IF THE UNITED STATES ACTS IN THE SAME MANNER, THIS WILL MEET THE INTERESTS OF THE WHOLE WORLD, OF ALL THE PEOPLES, AND THIS WILL BE GOOD. IF WE CAST AN OBJECTIVE GAZE AT THE PRESENT-DAY WORLD AND AT THE PRESENT-DAY SITUATION, WE CANNOT FAIL TO RECOGNIZE AND TO SEE THAT TODAY THE STRUGGLE FOR PEACE IS EASIER THAN IT WAS YESTERDAY AND THIS IS DUE TO THE FACT THAT A SOLID FOUNDATION HAS BEEN LAID IN DEVELOPING RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION, IN THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS. LET US THEREFORE NOT LOSE THAT FOUNDATION, BUT LET US RATHER BROADEN IT AND STRENGTHEN IT.

SO IF BOTH OUR COUNTRIES WORK IN THIS DIRECTION AND WE CAN CERTAINLY VOUCH FOR OURSELVES, FOR OUR ENTIRE COUNTRY AND OUR ENTIRE PEOPLE, I BELIEVE THAT THEN THE UNITED STATES AND ALL AMERICANS, LIKE ALL SOVIET PEOPLE IN THE SOVIET UNION, CAN LOOK INTO THE FUTURE WITH OPTIMISM.

LET ME MAKE ONE MORE POINT. WHAT WE HAVE SAID DOES NOT MEAN THAT THERE ARE NOW NO MORE PROBLEMS WHICH REQUIRE SOLUTIONS-- PROBLEMS THAT ARE IMPORTANT AND VERY ACUTE. SUCH PROBLEMS DO IN FACT EXIST AND THEY DO REQUIRE SOLUTIONS AND THEY WILL REQUIRE GREAT EFFORT IN ORDER THAT THOSE SOLUTIONS ARE FOUND. BUT IF THERE IS A WILL ON BOTH SIDES AND A DETERMINATION TO ARRIVE AT POLITICAL DECISIONS AND SOLUTIONS, THEY CANNOT FAIL TO BE RESOLVED. THIS IS THE VIEW THAT WE TAKE, THAT THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP TAKES. WE HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING THE STATEMENTS MADE BY PRESIDENT CARTER AND BY YOURSELF, MR. SECRETARY; STATEMENTS IN FAVOR OF COOPERATION WITH THE SOVIET UNION. LET ME SAY: IF THOSE STATEMENTS ARE TRANSLATED INTO PRACTICAL POLICIES IN ALL THE MAJOR EFFORTS IN FOREIGN POLICY UNDERTAKEN BY THE UNITED STATES, IT WILL BECOME EASIER TO BUILD A LASTING PEACE BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND IN THE WORLD AT LARGE.

YOU WOULD BE DOING THE RIGHT AND THE CORRECT THING, MR. SECRETARY, IF YOU CARRY BACK TO THE UNITED STATES THE IMPRESSION THAT THE SOVIET UNION AND OUR PEOPLE AND OUR LEADERSHIP ARE PREPARED TO GO FURTHER, NOT ONLY TO MAINTAIN THE PRESENT LEVEL OF UNCLASSIFIED

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OUR RELATIONSHIPS BUT TO RAISE THAT LEVEL TO A NEW HEIGHT ON THE BASIS OF EQUALITY AND EQUAL SECURITY. WE ARE FULLY DETERMINED TO WORK TO ACHIEVE THAT GOAL, TO WORK ON THAT BASIS. THIS YOU CAN SAY TO ANY AMERICAN IN ANY WAY YOU SEE FIT.

BUT IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT FOR SUCCESS TO BE ASSURED ALONG THIS PATH, EQUAL EFFORTS ARE REQUIRED ON THE PART OF THE UNITED STATES AS WELL.

I WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU ALL TO RAISE YOUR GLASSES AND TO DRINK TO THE HEALTH OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE HEALTH OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND ALL OUR AMERICAN HOSTS PRESENT HERE TODAY.

(END TEXT OF GROMYKO TOAST).

VANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 22-Sep-1999 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECTO, MINISTERIAL VISITS, SPEECHES, SOCIAL RECEPTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SECTO03049
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D770109-0282
Format: TEL
From: SECRETARY IN MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197703111/baaaeuzj.tel
Line Count: 184
Litigation Code IDs:
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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 75a101b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION PRS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 056619
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2964207
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECVISIT: TOASTS AT SECRETARY'S LUNCHEON
TAGS: SOPN, PFOR, OVIP, US, UR, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (GROMYKO, ANDREY ANDREYEVICH)
To: STATE USA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/75a101b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009